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Incoming M0470032 Cc: deslie Paul Jed

April 28, 2008

Paul Baker, Reclamation Biologist Department of Natural Resources Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining Mineral Regulatory Program P.O. Box 145801 Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801

> Re: Mine Operator Name Change; AROC #1/Asphalt Ridge

> > Mine, M/047/032; Uintah County, Utah

Dear Mr. Baker:

As your records will show, pursuant to a letter addressed to me from your office dated July 1, 2005 (copy enclosed), Wembco, Inc. (Wembco) is the current responsible party for mining and reclamation of the above referenced mine.

Crown Asphalt Ridge, LLC (Crown) was, until July 1, 2005, the responsible company for the mining and reclamation operations of the referenced tar sands mine. Please be advised that Crown is a wholly owned subsidiary of Wembco. On July 1, 2005, your office released Crown and transferred the responsibility of the mining operation and reclamation to Wembco pursuant to my request. Wembco, Inc. has now leased all of its land, including the entire AROC #1 Mine, to Crown. All future operations at the mine will be conducted in the name of Crown Asphalt Ridge, LLC. All permits, including those from the Department of Environmental Quality and its divisions are and will continue to be in the name of Crown Asphalt Ridge, LLC.

Wembco and Crown respectfully request that your office change the name for the mining operation and reclamation responsibilities from Wembco, Inc. to its wholly owned subsidiary Crown Asphalt Ridge, LLC. Please see the enclosed corresponding March 24, 2008 letter addressed to you from James L. Barnes, Chairman of the Board and President of Wembco, Inc.

Currently, there is a reclamation contract and a replacement surety in the form of a Certificate of Deposit issued by Zions Bank in the amount of \$275,000 in the custody of your office. As part of this request, we submit that Crown will assume all obligations under the office. As part of this request, we submit that a review of the amount of surety be postponed for reclamation contract and surety, and ask that a review of the amount of surety be postponed for the following reasons:

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Paul Baker, Reclamation Biologist Department of Natural Resources Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining Mineral Regulatory Program April 28, 2008 Page 2

- 1. Operations since June 30, 2005 have not disturbed any additional acreage at the AROC #1/Asphalt Ridge Mine;
- 2. Crown will be testing oil separation technologies during the summer and fall of 2008, and does not yet have any mine plan expansions;
- 3. No new surface disturbances at the existing mine are planned or will occur during the testing phase of oil separation technologies.
- 4. At the conclusion of testing, the existing facility at Asphalt Ridge will be refurbished to process tar sands ore in an as yet undetermined daily tonnage amount;
- 5. When the amount of ore per day to be processed has been determined, a request will be made to expand the existing mining operation pursuant to a new mine plan which has not yet been developed; and
- 6. As shown by the enclosed letter from James L. Barnes, Wembco has agreed that the current reclamation bond can remain in place until the new mine plan has been submitted to your office for approval.

Based upon the foregoing, we ask that you please consider our request to change the name of the mine operator for the AROC #1/Asphalt Ridge Mine, M 047/032 to Crown Asphalt Ridge, LLC, and to allow the current surety to remain in place until a new mine plan has been submitted to your office for approval, or until your office otherwise determines that a review of the surety and amount is appropriate.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at the contact information set forth on the letterhead above.

very truly yours,

Thomas W. Bachtell, Manager

TWB:ct Enclosures

CC: James L. Barnes
Kathy Barnes
Soung Joon Kim, COO – KTIA
Yeoup Ryu, Esq. – KTIA



## State of Utah

## Department of Natural Resources

MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director

Division of Oil, Gas & Mining

JOHN R. BAZA
Division Director

JON M. HUNTSMAN, JR.

Governor

GARY R. HERBERT Lieutenant Governor

July 1, 2005

CERTIFIED RETURN RECEIPT 7002 0510 0003 8603 3387

Wembco, Inc. c/o Tom Bachtell 36 South State Street Salt Lake City, Utah 84111

Subject: Transfer of Notice of Intention, Large Mining Operations; Wembco,

Inc. AROC #1/Asphalt Ridge Mine; ivi/047/032, Uintah County,

<u>Utah</u>

Dear Mr. Bachtell:

On June 23, 2005, the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining received your application to transfer the Notice of Intention to Commence Large Mining Operations for the AROC #1/Asphalt Ridge Mine from Crown Asphalt Ridge, LLC, to Wembco, Inc. A reclamation contract and a replacement surety in the form of a certificate of deposit issued by Zions Bank in the amount of \$275,000 were received.

The documents were signed and executed on June 30, 2005, which effectively transfers the responsibility of this mining operation and reclamation to Wembco, Inc. Copies of the executed transfer form, reclamation contract and CD are enclosed for your files. You are now the official party responsible for all mining and reclamation obligations for this project. Please be aware that you must satisfy the SITLA requirements in making this change in ownership as well. We will forward a copy of the executed transfer form and surety documents, along with this letter, to them for their records.

By copy of this letter, the Division hereby officially releases Crown Asphalt Ridge, LLC, from any further reclamation responsibilities at this site. Thank you for your help in finalizing this transaction. If you have any



Tom Bachtell Page 2 of 2 M/047/032 July 1, 2005

questions or concerns regarding this letter, please contact me at (801) 538-5258.

Sincerely,

Susan M. White

Mining Program Coordinator Minerals Regulatory Program

Jusan M. White

DWH:PBB:jb

Enclosure: Executed Transfer form, Reclamation Contract, CD

cc: John Blake, SITLA w/encl

E. Blaine Rawson, Holme, Roberts & Owen w/encl O:\M047-Uintah\M0470032-Crown-AsphaltRidge\final\trans-07012005.doc

## WEMBCO, INC.

9811 WEST CHARLESTON, SUITE 2-880 LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89117

March 24, 2008

Paul B. Baker, Environmental Scientist Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining Mineral Regulatory Program 1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210 Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801

> Re: Mine Operator Name Change, Large Mining Operation; Asphalt Ridge Mine M/047/032; Uintah County, Utah

Dear Mr. Baker:

Please allow this letter to serve as the request of Wembco, Inc. (Wembco), as the current named mine operator of the above referenced mine, for your office to approve the request of Crown Asphalt Ridge, LLC (Crown) for an operator name change.

Crown is wholly owned by Wembco. Crown was the operator of the mine until June 30, 2005 when its lease expired and Wembco assumed the operation and reclamation responsibilities. For business reasons, Wembco has again leased all of its properties at Asphalt Ridge to Crown. All future operations at the mine and on the properties will be conducted by Crown.

Operations since June 30, 2005 have not disturbed any additional acreage. While Crown will be testing oil separation technologies during the summer, no additional acres will be disturbed without appropriate approvals. When Crown is ready to commence commercial operations, it will file the necessary papers for approval with your office based upon the new proposed plan which should be finalized this fall. The current surety bond will remain in place for Crown's operations. We therefore also request that a review of the surety bond amount be delayed until later this year.

Please also allow this letter to also serve as authorization for Thomas W. Bachtell, as Manager of Crown and on behalf of Wembco, to file and execute for both companies all documents and other papers necessary or convenient for this request. If you have any questions, please let me know or direct them to Mr. Bachtell.

Sincerely.

James L. Barnes

Chairman of the Board and President